HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF PENNSYLVANIA.

By a resolution of the Society, adopted January 14th, 1856, the following report was ordered to be furnished to the various newspapers published in the State; with [illegible]ment of the actual condition of the Publication Fund, and the names of the Trustees of the Fund, and the officers of the Society.

R[illegible]

"The Committee to [illegible] was referred [illegible] communication of our fellow member, Chas. Miner, of Wilkesbarre, in relation to the organization of auxiliary county societies, the members of which should pay an annual contion to the subscribers to the Fund. Under a resolution adopted for this purpose, persons who shall become subscribers to the Fund before the first day of May next; will be regarded as entitled to a copy of this History. Letters containing subscriptions to the Fund are to be addressed to the Historical Society of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia. Subscribers should give early notice of any delay in the receipt of their books.

[illegible] the Society [illegible] designed for the whole State, and its memberships being open to our fellow citizens of every county, every available

THE LONDON TIMES AND THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE.

The London *Times*, the "Thunderer," in a review of the President's Message to Congress, comes out as follows:

"We are at a loss to conceive what more can be required of us or what 'reparation' can possibly be made or expected. If the President expects that the British government [illegible] submit to humiliation [illegible] be disappointed. There has been no mischief done—we have acknowledged our erganization of auxiliary county societies, the members of which should pay an annual contribution to the Pennsylvania Historical Society permanently established at Philadelphia; such auxiliaries to receive in return copies of the publications of this Society—respectfully report:

That they have given to the communication the respectful and careful consideration due to the suggestions of a gentleman so well known to us as Mr. Miner, as an able, zealous and successful investigator of Pennsylvania history.

That they concur with him in believing that it is the duty of our intelligent and prosperous fellow citizens throughout the State, to give hearty and active aid to such measures as shall be necessary to transmit to posterity a knowledge of the details of our history. The extent of the territory of our commonwealth, its numerous and increasing population, the variety and magnitude of its resources, and its relations to the Republic, must give peculiar and growing importance to its career. The principles upon which its institutions were founded, and which are now for the most part common to the other States of our political union, are exhibited in our own annals with peculiar advantage of illustration. In every department of the public service Pennsylvanians have contributed largely to the materials of our general history: and surely none of us could contemplate without pain the prospect of our annals becoming obscure through the negligence of those upon whom rests the sacred obligation to transmit a clear record of them to future times.

The arrangements by which we can secure a steady collection, digest and publication of the materials awaiting our efforts, must of course be adopted after careful consideration of the special difficulties of the case, the nature and situation of those materials, the degree of our necessary dependence upon voluntary and gratuitous services, and the instruction derived from experience in other communities, as well as in our own. To be efficient, our machinery of organization should be as simple and permanent as possible, so as to be to the smallest practicable extent dependant upon the fluctuations of local interest; or of periodical pecuniary support. The funds upon which we are to rely should be procured with the least practical deduction for expenses of collection and administration, and their application should be so directed as to concentrate the influence of the motives which are to stimulate the collector of historical material and the writer. It is with such views that the Historical Society of Pennsylvania was made an association for the State rather than for the city in which, on account of its origin and the special advantages there available for literary labors, the meetings of the members have been held. Its privileges have always been open to all Pennsylvanians, without respect to residence, and they are of a character to be eminently useful to all who choose to enjoy them according to the original design. The contributions *to its literary resources have come from* every quarter of the State, and it now enrolls in its list of members, many of our most useful and eminent citizens. In accordance with the patriotic liberality of its plan the Society according reader at the earliest opportunity, the fruits of its accumulations, has laid the foundation of a Trust Fund, the employment of which, as limited by the terms of the trust, promises to give the earliest and largest effect to the legitimate purposes of the Society. *This fund is* composed of subscriptions of twenty dollars each, for which each subscriber is entitled, during his or her life, to receive a copy of every publication of the Society. The principal is invested as received, and the yearly revenue therefrom is appropriated to *the objects* of the Trust. Any person may thus acquire a permanent interest in the society and a right to participate in the best fruits of its labors. The advantages of such a connection with it has been promptly recognized; and already numerous subscriptions have been received not only from our own interior counties, but from other States, of which ten have contributed to the Fund. This general manifestation of interest appears reasonable enough when we consider how closely *the events which belong to our* local annals are often related to the greater evolutions of American history; and how many occasions must arise for publishing narratives in which the citizens of other Commonwealths are concerned. This reflection has induced the Society to relieve the Trust from restrictions which might otherwise have appeared proper in respect to the locality of its subjects. The selection of the materials to be printed has been guarded by making indispensable the consent of both the Trustees and the Society.

With such a plan, and with a fund which now amounts to nine thousand dollars, and the increase of which is rapid, your Committee cannot doubt the success of the Society; and they share the gratification of their *fellow members upon the welcome given by* the public to the first work thus sent to the press,—the History of Braddock's Expedition, by Winthrop Sargent. They have learned with pleasure, from officers of the Society, that numerous manuscripts of local historical character, some of them of early date, have been received from different sections of the State; and that other valuable materials for the pens of future authors are promised to us.

It cannot be doubted that the incentives thus offered will be much more efficacious than any which can spring from the routine of ordinary correspondence between the Society and county auxiliaries; and certainly the expenses and difficulty of maintenance will be much less. If, stimulated by these and other views, our fellow *citizens* in any of the counties shall become sufficiently interested in the general work to form an association for its better promotion, the way will always be open; and the inducements will have become stronger with each augmentation of the resources of the Publication Fund.

Upon the whole, therefore, your committee are of opinion that it is most expedient for the Society to take early steps to inform our citizens generally of the plan and prospects of the Fund, and of its convenience and importance as an instrument for the production of a valuable historical literature in our midst.

William Bigler, of Clearfield.
George Chambers, of Chambersburg.
Samuel Breck, of Philadelphia.

The Publication Fund is composed of subscriptions of twenty dollars each, the payment of which by any person entitles him or her for life to a copy of all the publications of the Society. This Fund is of recent establishment, yet its increase has been rapid and steady: and it already amounts to nine thousand dollars. Residents in all quarters of the State, and even in other States, have become subscribers to it. The selection of the works to be published is determined by the concurrence of both the Society and the Trustees: either having a negative upon the acts of the other in this respect. The first book issued is the History of Braddock's Expedition, by Winthrop Sargent; a handsome octavo volume of 420 pages, with valuable maps and engravings. This interesting work has been very favorably received by the public. Nearly five hundred copies have been sold in addition to the distribution

its memberships being open to our fellow citizens of every county, every available opportunity is embraced by us to invite their co-operation in the collection and preservation of materials for the history of our Commonwealth; and for securing a just tribute from posterity to the memory of citizens who have been in any way distinguished by local or general services. It is hoped that historical notices of towns and counties, memoranda of remarkable facts, biographical and genealogical notices, and and letters, diaries, and other manuscripts, will continue to be sent to the Society. It It is suggested that, in all cases of contribution of such materials the contributor should furnish therewith, as far as practicable a statement of such facts as may be requisite to establish the genuineness and authority of the documents, as the name of the donor, and any information respecting the archives are recorded and filed by the Society.

President.—Thomas Sergeant.

Vice-Presidents.—George Sharswood, J. R. Tyson, William Duane, William Shippen.

Corresponding Secretary.—Horatio Gates Jones.

Recording Secretary.—Frank M. Etting.

Trustees of the Publication Fund.—George W. Norris, Sixteenth and Locust streets; John Jordan, Jr., Manufacturers' and Mechanics' Bank; Harry Conrad, No. 123 North Third street.

Treasurer.—Charles M. Morris.

Librarian.—Townsend Ward.

Signed by order of the Society,
Thomas Sergeant, *President.*
Attest—Frank M. Etting, *Rec. Sec'y.*
January 28th, 1856.

The Columbia Spy,

A PENNSYLVANIA INDEPENDENT JOURNAL.

COLUMBIA, Pa.,
SATURDAY, FEB. 9, 1856.

☞"Intemperance" is deferred for this week.

We have a number of articles on hand which we have not yet had time to examine.

☞We are indebted to Hon. Anthony E. Roberts, for valuable public documents.

Pennsylvania Legislature—The usual abstract of Legislative proceedings is unavoidably crowded out this week. Nothing of particular interest has, however, been done

LIBEL SUITS.

Mr. Getz, of the Pennsylvania Legislature, has introduced into the House, the following bill in reference to libel suits:

Section 1. Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, in General Assembly met, and it is hereby enacted by the authority of the same, That from and after the passage of this act, on the trial of indictments for writing or publishing a libel, the truth of the matter charged as libellous, in any such case shall find that the act was induced by good motives, and with no malicious intent, and that the matter so charged is true, it shall operate to the acquittal of the defendant or defendants.

Sec. 2. That in actions for damages for the writing or publishing a libel, where the truth is pleaded and given in evidence, if it be found that the same was written or published properly for public information, and with no mischievous or malicious motives, the jury may find for the defendant or defendants.

Every friend of justice and truth will be glad to learn that an effort is at length made to correct the present unjust and obnoxious libel law of the State of Pennsylvania. Under it when a mis-statement has been made in a newspaper, that fact of itself is construed to be evidence of malice or intention to do wrong, and the circumstances of the publication are not admissable in evidence. A paragraph may be published with the best intentions on the part of an editor, for the purpose of guarding the community against fraud, or as *an item of news*, but for which suit may be instituted, and the editor made to suffer. There is scarcely a newspaper in the State, which has not at times been liable to suits for libel, and among many that have been instituted, we can now recall some that were nothing less than malicious prosecutions. Mr. Getz is entitled to the thanks of his brethren of the press throughout the State for his bill, which should receive their cordial support.

Speaker Elected.—In the House of Representatives at Washington on Saturday last, a Speaker was at last chosen. Mr. Smith, of Tennessee, offered a plurality resolution, providing that, if no speaker were elected after three more trials, a plurality should be sufficient to elect. A motion to lay it on the table was lost by ten majority. It was then adopted by a vote of 113 yeas to 104 nays. Motions to rescind, adjourn &c., were negatived amid much confusion and excitement, and the house proceeded to ballot. On the 4th ballot, the vote stood—Banks 103; Aiken 100; Fuller 6; Campbell, of Ohio, 4; Wells 2. Nathaniel P. Banks, Jr., was thereupon declared elected Speaker, and was conducted to the chair. After he had delivered a brief address, the oath of office was administered by Mr. Giddings, of Ohio. The House then adjourned amid prolonged cheering by the Republicans.

The State Arsenal Robbery.—The Grand Jury of Dauphin County have found two bills against Andrew E. Drane, late keeper of the State Arsenal, and Aaron Coburn, a member of the House of Representatives from the City of Philadelphia, for the robbery of the Arsenal a few months ago. The first count of the indictment charges Drane, with larceny of rifles and muskets to the value of $2,025, and Coburn with being accessory to said larceny before the fact. The second count charges Coburn alone with receiving the property referred to, knowing it to have been stolen. The other indictment is against both for a conspiracy to appropriate to their own use the property of the Commonwealth. The case was continued by the Court, at the request of Mr. Coburn's counsel, on the account of the absence of a material witness. Mr. C. was then held to bail in the sum of $2,500, to appear at the April sessions, which he gave and was discharged. Drane remains in jail.

☞The Massachusetts State Agricultural Society has offered a premium of $1000 for the best mowing machine.

be disappointed. There has been no mischief done—we have acknowledged our error, and we say we are sorry that we have unintentionally given offence. We can do no more and we must take the consequences if our irascible cousins at the other side of the Atlantic are pre-determined not to be satisfied with the utmost reparation we can offer without loss of self-respect. Should the intemperance of either government, or of both, lead to hostilities, the origin of the war would soon be forgotten in the bitterness of the conflict. Armed ships would swarm like hornets from the ports of the United States to fall upon our merchantmen, but in a few months the powerful British navy would sweep the stars and stripes from the ocean. Modern Paul Joneses might harass the defenceless points of our coasts, but the great seaboard cities of America would be open to the guns of British fleets."

Oh, of course! Johnny Bull must have his way—we have nothing to complain of—not us! Like a pick-pocket caught in the act, as John has been in the foreign enlistment affair, he now coolly draws out his hand and—stands upon his dignity! Of course, the mere fact of his ceasing from a violation of our laws, must by his reasoning, prove a sufficient apology for the sin itself—a full reparation. Logical John! And how he does bluster! "Sweep the stars and stripes from the ocean." Just what the old ass has promised to do as frequently as a cause for quarrel has been presented.

It is decidedly rich, after the lessons taught the old gentleman by our Hull, Decatur, Porter, and others of the glorious past. Yes, we think we see that glorious banner droop before the red cross of Britain—we see our brave old tars, shrink before the haughty and brawling "Lord" this, and "Sir" that, in case it does come to the scratch. Should we again grapple with her, England will find that what the but half developed nation nearly effected, will be effectually done by that nation now grown to vigorous manhood—viz:—the rending away of her dependencies and the complete humiliation of her beggarly pride and insolence.

FRIGHTFUL RAILROAD ACCIDENT.

The night express train from Philadelphia for this place and the west, which left the depot at Eleventh and Market streets, at 11 o'clock on Monday night last, met with a disastrous accident about half a mile this of Hestonville, three miles from Philadelphia. The train, which consisted of the locomotive, baggage car, and two passenger cars, was going up a heavy grade at the rate of about fifteen miles an hour, when a rail, that had probably been rendered brittle by the intense cold, broke in three pieces, throwing the *front wheels* of the *forward* car off the track. These wheels were, however, drawn upon the rails again, and this car afterwards *retained its position upon the track.*

The second car was thrown from the track, and the [illegible] car, with all its occupants, was precipitated down an embankment about thirty feet high. The car in its descent struck a large tree at the bottom. The concussion split the car open and threw many of the passengers to the ground, and enabled most of the others to escape from the wreck. Had the car not been broken to pieces the consequences would have been more frightful, as there was a very hot fire in the stove. The blazing coments of the stove were scattered through the car in its descent, and in a few minutes the latter was in flames.

A great number of the passengers were more or less hurt. Out of about fifty in the car, twenty-seven were wounded. But one passenger was killed. He was found lying upon his back with a portion of the wreck pressing heavily upon his neck and the upper part of his breast. He lived for about an hour after being extricated from the ruins, but was insensible during this period. The deceased was not known, but from papers in his pocket and the initials upon his shirt he is believed to be Mr. Abraham B. Hart, of the firm of Wm. B. Hart & Son, merchants, of Cincinnati, Ohio. The name of A. B. Hart is also upon a trunk among the baggage, which is supposed to have belonged to the deceased.

As soon as possible, the wounded and the passengers who escaped unhurt, were got into the remaining passenger car and the baggage car, and taken back to the city.—The wounded were taken to the different hotels, and to private houses, and everything done to alleviate their sufferings.

We understand that of the wounded, Mr. E. C. Fahnestock, of Gettysburg, has since died of his injuries.

☞A great deal of sympathy has been lately expressed for the fate of a poor family, a mother and eleven children, the whole of the latter having been found in some kind of outhouse, down south, frozen to death. The miserable father of the family, has had to bear a deal of obloquy and abuse, "a perfect hog," an "unmitigated brute," &c., being among the mildest of the terms used against him for his neglect of the helpless mother and little ones. We feel sorry for the fate of the infants, and heartily deplore their sad end, and reiterate the charges made against the father, merely suggesting at the same time, that we can't see how he could have been the father of the tribe without being to all intents "a perfect hog." The mother, notwithstanding the late disaster, bristles up on hearing her spouse spoken of in this most disreputable manner.

COSMOPOLITAN ART ASSOCIATION.—The second annual distribution of the works of works of art by this Association, has been postponed from the 31st of January, to the 28th of February next, (the same as last year,) *at which time it will positively take place.* This postponement has been found necessary in order to receive the reports of the distant Secretaries. Memberships may yet be obtained by addressing C. L. Derby, Actuary, C. A. A., at either of the principal offices—"Knickerbocker Magazine" Office, 348 Broadway, New York, or Western Office, 166 Water street, Sandusky, Ohio.

☞One of the London papers says Father Mathew is laboring as a priest at Rena, one of the Fejee Islands

Town and County Matters.

MISS SEARS' LECTURES.—A short time ago Miss Sears delivered a lecture on "Female Culture," and also a Literary Lecture in Lancaster, both of which were well received, and spoken of by the press of that city in high terms of praise. Of the former, the *Ex*[illegible]

"Her discourse was unlike all the women's rights speeches we have read, being free from that rampant advocacy of political equality and "rights" which characterize and disgrace the proceedings of too many womens' rights conventions. She pleaded the true interests and natural rights of her sex, not being insensible to their follies and extravagances, which she reproved with gentle earnestness. * * * Her remarks on the mode of educating young ladies at fashionable boarding schools, where everything is taught and nothing really acquired, embodied much sound philosophy, and evinced most accurate observation, coupled with a remarkably sound judgment. * * * The general moral tone of her arguments and illustrations was of the highest order; and we were pleased to notice that the charge of skepticism which has been preferred against many of the female lecturers can have no application to Miss Sears. A deep and fervent appreciation of the divine idea of the Infinite, as revealed in a Saviour's love, was stamped upon the *morale* of her discourse."

Miss Sears is now delivering a course of lectures on Physiology, in Lancaster, and of the first one the *Daily* says, after stating that it was attended by a large number of ladies for whom alone it was intended—"those who were present speak in the highest terms, both of the accomplishments of the lecturer, and her ability to impart the knowledge she possesses of this much neglected but most important branch of female education. A large number joined the class she is now forming."

Miss Sears intends shortly to visit our place for the purpose of giving the Lecture on "Female Culture" and a Literary Lecture; and also, a course of lectures on Physiology—a subject with which every female should be familiar; and we trust she will meet with an encouragement which will exhibit the deep interest felt by us in everything having for its object the diffusion of useful information, as well as our own improvement.

COUNTY SUPERINTENDENT.—The following communication appeared in the last Lancaster *Examiner & Herald:*

"We would respectfully suggest that a County Convention, of the School Directors of Lancaster County, be held at Lancaster, for the purpose of ascertaining what advantages our Common Schools have derived from the services of the County Superintendent.

A BOARD OF SCHOOL DIRECTORS.

By all means. And let the delegates selected to attend the Convention be first subjected to an examination by some fourth-rate teacher, in order to ascertain their fitness as judges in the matter. We think if that were done, the Convention might meet in a small

alluded to, by Directors, shows that its good effects are being felt, to the detriment, perhaps, of the assumed dignity of many a jackanape in brief authority.

A YANKEE INVENTION.—A day or two since we examined a gun so contrived as to shoot two loads from the same barrel, the invention of a gentleman from Ohio, formerly from 'away deown east." He explained its operation to us, which we found to be very simple. Two loads are placed in the barrel—the first being gauged, which brings the second charge in the proper place. By a *movement of the* finger, after the first load is discharged, the hammer is prepared for the tube of the second. The inventor informed us, that in the course of a few months, double-barreled guns, made on this plan—four-shooters—would be introduced to the sporting public. The single-barreled gun he exhibited, we should think much superior to the ordinary double-barreled gun.

BREAK-IN.—On Thursday morning last as Mr. R. R. Claiborne was returning from Wrightsville, with his bread wagon, when near the middle of the river the ice gave way, and the horse and wagon went in the water to the depth of several feet. Fortunately, a number of persons were crossing at the same time and near Mr. Claiborne; by their assistance the horse was unhitched and got upon the sound ice, and the wagon was lifted out. The break-in was probably owing to the ice having become brittle from the constant use of one track on it. The crossing has been regarded as perfectly safe, but this accident shows that considerable care is necessary and risk run in crossing the ice bridge.

☞On Monday evening last, as Professor Heness, of this place, accompanied by a lady, was crossing the river from Wrightsville in a sleigh, being misled by a light on the shore, he mistook his route, and in passing over a weak spot in the ice it gave way, percipitating his horse into the river. Having removed the lady from her perilous situation, help was soon procured, and the horse extricated from his chill bath. The animal was, we learn, severely injured by the accident.

☞What's the matter with the gas? On Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday evenings, we had just enough of it to make darkness visible. There's one consolation, that we don't have to pay for what we do not burn—but it is rather awkward to be left in darkness so suddenly as it sometimes happens. Wonder if the Gas Company will have to answer for all the bad words people use when disappointed of a light? Guess not.

FIRE.—A fire occurred at the Cabinet establishment of Casper Seibert, in Locust street, on Wednesday last. The fire was communicated to the shavings on the floor by some unknown means, and in a few moments the whole room was enveloped in flames. We are glad to learn that it was extinguished without serious loss.

KILLED.—We are informed that Mr. Adam Dougherty, a resident of this place, was killed by being run over by the cars, at Altoona early in the present week.

☞Examine the huge stock of Valentines of all sorts to be found at McMahons.

☞Poor old "Phillis," a nonagenarian resident of "Tow Hill," was found in her cabin the other day, nearly frozen to death. Some kind souls, learning the fact, at once set about the alleviation of her miseries, sent her a supply of fuel and other necessaries, and we hear that the old creature is now as merry as a cricket. It don't cost much to keep her comfortable, and the few days she has yet to spend in her earthly pilgrimage, should be made to her as cheerful as possible. Poor old "Phillis"! is a realization of

"Second childhood
Mere oblivion."

THE WEATHER.—Thursday last brought a change—setting aside the "cold term" and giving us a taste of real February weather. The footways were in many places in awful condition—flooded with a compound of snow, rain and filth, rendering peripatetic exercises anything but desirable, or conducive to health. The Doctors, we always imagine, look on this kind of visitation as prospectively very fine for their business, and we advise our friends, the ladies, to disappoint them if possible by a general use of thick shoes and fleecy hose.

ACCIDENT.—Mr. P. McLaughlin, of this place, met with a serious accident on Thursday last, on the lower railroad, near Mr. Bletz's Planing Mill. He was engaged in clearing the snow from the top of a car, when he slipped and was percipitated to the ground, the fall breaking his thigh, and otherwise injuring him. Drs. John and McCorkle attended to his injuries, and we understand he is doing as well as could be expected.

COLUMBIA & OCTORARA RAILROAD.—Look to the advertisement of the election of officers of this road, to be held to-day, to be found in to-days paper.

OUR PHILADELPHIA CORRESPONDENCE.

PHILADELPHIA, February 7th, 1856.

DEAR SPY—The principal topic of conversation at the present time is the intensely cold weather which has now for some time prevailed with but little abatement. The thermometer has ranged within the points near zero, sometimes several degrees below. All manner of comfortables are brought into requisition; furs, cloaks and shawls are scarcely considered sufficient, used separately, but in many instances are all applied at the same time, and the wearer to all appearances still looks cold and shivering. The fun of sleighing is no longer pursued with the same degree of spirit as several weeks previous. Our people seem tired out, and those who could not speak enough in regard to its unceasing pleasures, seem provoked at the mere mention of snow and sleighing. The sidewalks continue in many places very slippery. On some of them the rising generation have instituted slides; and as you are cautiously and gingerly picking your steps over the dangerous place, your ears are saluted with shouts and cries of "keep the mill a-going," and at once perceive some six or a dozen urchins sliding on your heels and a full size length of your person is con[illegible] on the ground.

Provisions of all kinds are reported as being high priced, and it is a mystery how those people who are dependent upon each day's labor for subsistence, and who are too proud to ask for and receive pecuniary assistance, contrive to live. It is this class who principally suffer on account of exorbitant prices demanded for provisions of all kinds, and it is these people who are deserving of the most cordial sympathy.

Several severe conflagrations have occurred during the week, and from all accounts attended with considerable loss and distress.

The Delaware river remains firmly closed and with little prospect of a speedy opening. In consequence navigation is impeded, for the efforts of the City Ice Boat to open the channel proved totally ineffectual, the ice being entirely too hard frozen for it to make any advancement.

The health of the city continues about the same as the week previous. C.

For the Columbia Spy.

MR. EDITOR—What do you mean by inserting in your paper, as you some times do, those horrifying accounts of exscissions, incisions, amputations, and so forth, of all kinds of horrible excrescences. It is bad enough in all conscience to be bored by the *talk* of the Doctors about those things, let alone having them come before us in print, and perhaps just at the time we are about to sit down to our cutlet and coffee. You make us imagine—wifey and I—that a Doctor's shop is a kind of slaughter house, and museum of all kinds of monstrosities. Don't, my good sir, don't for mercy's sake, let us have any more of it; we are nervous people, like to sleep without dreams of warts and wens, caries and cauteries, fungi and fractures. Why, sir, we get into the most wretched state you can imagine, after reading statements of that sort of thing.

COLUMBIA, Pa., Feb. 6, 1856. BOBBY.

Our friend Bobby, must keep cool. We think the publication of matter he refers to, in some measure beneficial to science; and though we do not much ourselves affect the sight of bones, blood and blubber, we try to make other matters subject for reflection at our tea table. For instance, should "wifey" suggest something unpleasant, we turn it off by a remark on the weather—and *vice versa*, she on her part becomes exceedingly deaf to unpleasant suggestions of ours, kissing the baby at times furiously. *Verbum sat.*

For the Columbia Spy.

MR. EDITOR—I think a well-cultivated whisker looks well upon a good looking man, but really I must be allowed to file my protest against the wretched affairs sported by dirty-faced young men, dubbed "imperial" "moustache," &c. I saw a young fellow, the other day, lounging against a sign post, with a jaunty cap perched upon the top of his empty cranium, and just enough hair sprinkled over his face to give him the appearance of a chimpanzee. From the tenor of his conversation and airs he assumed, I am led to judge that a little more cultivation of his mental faculties and less of hirsute ornamentals, might benefit himself and the public. Once for all, I declare I would not have such a fellow kiss me for the world—faugh! the idea is repulsive.

Feb. 8, 1856. MINNA.

LITERARY NOTICES.

IRVING'S LIFE OF WASHINGTON.—Those persons who have subscribed for this excellent work, and read the first volume, will be glad to learn that the second has been issued and is now being delivered. Mr. James Kell, the Agent, who was here with the first volume some time ago, left the second with us a day or two ago. Of the first volume we spoke at some length, and made a number of extracts from it, when it was first issued; when we have an opportunity to examine the second fully, we shall lay such extracts before our readers as will prove interesting. But no one can fully appreciate the work without reading the whole of it. The third and last volume will be issued some time in April or May. Mr. Kell will give our citizens an opportunity of subscribing for the work as soon as practicable.

LIFE'S DISCIPLINE.—*Kate Weston; or To Will and To Do.* By Jennie De Witt. Beautifully illustrated with eight engravings. Price, $1,25. De Witt & Davenport, Publishers, 162 Nassau street, N. Y.

We have rarely glanced at a work of fiction which possessed the merit of the one now before us. The style is elevated, the plot effective, and filled up in a masterly manner. The moral lessons inculcated in it are such as to give it a claim to the favor of all the good. The characters are drawn with a close eye to nature, and marked and distinct in their delineations. The scenery of the picture, its lights and shades, are true to life. The book is well worthy of perusal, and no doubt marks the advent of one in the fields of literature, who is destined not only to adorn it; but also to be the means of doing much good with her ready pen. The fair authoress is the daughter of the celebrated Dr. Dowling of Philadelphia, himself an author of no small celebrity.

A NEW BOOK.—T. B. Peterson, 102 Chesnut street, Phila., is about issuing from the press a new work, by the distinguished American authoress, Mrs. Southworth, author of "The Lost Heiress," "The Deserted Wife," &c. &c.,—entitled "*India; or the Pearl of Pearl River.* The whole will be complete in one large duodecimo volume, neatly bound in cloth, for $1, 25: or in two volumes paper cover, for $1. It will be ready for sale on the 8th of March, and will be sent, free of postage, upon receipt of the money.

BRITISH CONVENTION WITH JAPAN.—The London *Gazette* contains a copy of the Convention between her Majesty and the Emperor of Japan. Under this Convention "the ports of Nagasaki and Hakendadi shall be open to British ships, for the purpose of effecting repairs and obtaining fresh water, provisions and other supplies of any sort they may absolutely want for the ships." Only ships in distress from weather or unmanageable, will be permitted to enter other ports. In the ports of Japan either now open, or which may hereafter be opened to the ships or subjects of any foreign nation, British ships and subjects shall be entitled to admission, and to the enjoyment of advantages with those of the most favored nation, always excepting the advantages accruing to the Dutch and Chinese, from their existing relations with Japan.

WHO WANTS TO BE MARRIED?—No excuse for remaining single now. You can marry whom you love. They cannot help it. They must reciprocate your passion. Only read Professor Rondout's book. He not only shows the "Bliss of Marriage," but betrays the secret by which the wedding can be made a thing inevitable. Only one dollar for a wife or a husband. Read the advertisement in our columns to day.

POISONED.—The Lewistown *True Democrat* says, the family of Mr. Henry Snyder, of this place, having all been taken sick about the same time, some ten days ago, and the character of the ailing, though not apparently serious, being somewhat unusual, Dr. Van Valzah was called in, when it was discovered that they had been poisoned by eating apple butter, which had been put into new crocks.

IRON HOUSES.—The consumption of iron for building purposes has now grown to be immense. In each of our cities foundries are in full operation, solely engaged on building castings, and the universal favor with which iron buildings are regarded betokens an incalculable increase in the amount of pig iron that will be required for them after a few more years.

☞ The Governor has appointed Dr. Thos. S. Kirkbride, of Philadelphia, Dr. F. A. Muhlenberg, of Lancaster, and Frederick Watts, Esq., of Carlisle, as Trustees of the State Lunatic Hospital. The nominations were unanimously confirmed by the Senate.

LANCASTER ELECTION.—At the recent election in Lancaster, John Zimmerman, Esq., was elected Mayor, over Jacob Albright, the present incumbent.

New Advertisements.

NOTICE.

THE Stockholders of the Columbia and Octoraro Railroad Company, will meet at the public house of Daniel Herr, in Columbia, on Saturday, the 9th of February 1856, 1 o'clock, P. M., to elect a President and twelve Directors to serve for the ensuing year.

JAMES L. REYNOLDS,
feb 9-1t Sec'y.

FOR SALE,

A FOUR OCTAVE MELODEON, of good tone and in perfect order, suitable for church or parlor.

Enquire of A. CALDWELL,
Or at the Ambrotype Gallery of Shepard & Co.
February 9, 1856-tf

NOTICE.

A MEETING of the Columbia Musical Association, will be held at their room, on TUESDAY EVENING, FEBRUARY 12, 1856. Every member is particularly requested to be present, as business of importance will be before the meeting.

Feb. 9, 1856-1t A. CALDWELL, Sec'y.

TIDE WATER MONEY.

THE HIGHEST PRICE paid (IN GOLD) for Tide Water Money, by ROBT. J. COLVIN, jr., residence, West King street, above Manor, Lancaster city, Pa. ROBT. J. COLVIN.

February 9, 1856 4t

PORTRAITS.

"Secure the shadow ere the substance fade."

SHEPARD & CO. take Portraits upon silver, glass or paper, in every style, truthful and beautiful, and at prices to defy competition. Call at the AMBROTYPE GALLERY, corner of Front and Locust street.

Feb. 9, 1856.

FOR RENT,

A BRICK DWELLING HOUSE, two stories and attic, in Union street, three doors above Second—is convenient and in good order.

Feb. 9, 1856-tf A. CALDWELL.

TO LET,

A NEW AND COMMODIOUS BRICK DWELLING HOUSE, situated on Union, between Third and Fourth streets, the house being entirely new, with gas fixtures, and hydrant in the yard: all in good order. For particulars, enquire of JOHN MACK on the premises, or JOHN McDONALD Front street.

Columbia, Feb 9, 1856 1t

SELECT SCHOOL.

THE subscriber respectfully informs the public that he intends immediately after the public schools close, to open a SELECT SCHOOL in the room now occupied by Mr. Greene, corner of Third and Perry streets. Parents sending their children to his school may rest assured, that while he is endeavoring to improve them in the various branches of an ENGLISH EDUCATION, he will pay particular attention to their morals. He will strive to lead them forward in the formation of a good moral character. Terms of tuition moderate.

REFERENCES.—School Directors of the borough.

Columbia, Feb. 9, 1856.-3t G. M. CLAWGES.

A BOAT FOR SALE.

THE undersigned has now for sale, at his yard, just above the Columbia Bridge, Columbia, Pa.,

A THOROUGH BUILT, NEW BOAT,

which is 81 feet keel, 14 feet 8 inches beam, and 5 feet 8 inches in depth of hold, cone deck, and built of the very best materials—calculated to carry over 65 tons, on three feet of water. Any person wishing to examine the same, will please call on the subscriber at his yard.

Boats built to order at short notice, and repairs done in a substantial manner, on reasonable terms.

HARFORD FRALEY,
Columbia, February 9, 1856-3t*

☞ Baltimore Daily Sun copy 6 times and send bill to this office.

VALENTINES! VALENTINES!

AN immense assortment of Valentines now on hand, ready for St. Valentine's Day. Dealers in this article as well as others are invited to call and examine this stock. In quality, quantity and variety, it excels any stock ever offered in Columbia.

N. B.—Postage paid on all Valentines purchased from the subscriber, and delivered to all parts of the town gratis. JAS. S. McMAHON,
Feb. 9, 1856. No. 4, Front street.

Superb Styles New Goods!

THE BEST SELECTION ever made, of beautiful Cloths, Cassimeres and Vesting, for the people of Columbia.

The undersigned very respectfully desires leave to call the attention of his patrons and the citizens of Columbia, to his splendid assortment of the above named articles which he has now on hand. His stock embraces a variety of the latest and most fashionable patterns of CASSIMERES and VESTINGS, as well as every make, finish and quality of CLOTHS, fresh from the importers hands, which have

NEVER BEEN CHEAPER.

He also has on hand a large assortment of Gentlemen's *wearing apparel*, such as Cravats, Handkerchiefs, Collars, Gloves, Hosiery and Fancy Articles.

His reputation as a Cutter and fitter of garments, he thinks, is sufficiently well known to render it unnecessary to speak of it at this time. His fits are warranted to give satisfaction in every particular, and his prices are lower than ever! *Everything very Cheap for* CASH.

His customers and others are requested to call and take a look through the stock, at his establishment in Front street, third door below the American House.

H KREIDLER, Agt.
Columbia, February 9, 1856.

A REMEDY FOR HARD TIMES.

H. C. FONDERSMITH has just returned from Philadelphia, with many articles which will greatly alleviate the present "hard times." The remedies are easily taken—either in large or small doses; and are as follows:

1 case 1050 yds. real indigo blue Calico at 6¼ cts.; 1 case 1075 yds. rich stripes and neat figured Calico at 6¼ cts., with a beautiful assortment of new spring styles—the first goods of the season, at 10 a 12½ cts.; 1 bale 1000 yds. fine unbleached sheeting muslin, 1½ yds. wide—the best goods ever offered in Columbia, at 6¼ cts.; 1 bale 950 yds. very fine unbleached Lancaster Muslins, only 6¼ cts; a large variety of makes bleached Muslins at 6¼, 8, 10, 12½ cts.; 10 pieces real Manchester Ginghams, only 12½ cts.

THE ATTENTION OF THE LADIES

is invited to a *new article* of MOHAIR ROBES! very desirable for travelling dresses; Also, to another new lot of EMBROIDERIES—such as Swiss and Jaconet Edgings and Insertings, Ruffling, Flouncing, &c., including a very large variety of French Worked Collars and Undersleeves, at all prices. Ladies in want of Embroidery can see something new at the People's Store.

Gentlemen will find a fresh lot of Nellessons & Larone's celebrated black twilled Cloths, with a fine assortment of Cassimeres and Vestings, Cravats, Suspenders, Gloves, Hosiery, &c., &c.

PEOPLE'S CHEAP CASH STORE, COL'A.
February 9, 1856.

PHILADELPHIA ADVERTISEMENT.

Evans' Fire and Thief Proof Safes.

FOR Merchants, Lawyers, Farmers, and others, having Books, Papers, or other valuables, to preserve from FIRE or BURGLARS. Day & *Newell's* (Hobb's) BANK LOCKS.

A CARD.—THE "FIRE PROOF SAFE." that preserved our Books, Papers, &c., during the 'Great Fire at Hart's Buildings,' was purchased of Oliver Evans, 16 S. 2nd st., Philadelphia. GETZ & BUCK.

"REFRIGERATORS AND WATER FILTERS."—Evans' Premium Ventilated Refrigerators, for cooling and preserving Meats, Butter, Milk, Water and all articles for culinary purposes.

WATER FILTERS, for purifying Brackish or Muddy Water, whether effected by rains, limestone, marl or other causes, may be had separate or attached to the Refrigerators—a small quantity of ice cooling the whole, in the warmest weather.

PORTABLE SHOWER BATHS, *for the use of warm or cold water.*

WATER COOLERS, for Hotels, Stores and Dwellings.

STORE TRUCKS, for moving Boxes, Bales, &c.

SEAL PRESSES, COPYING do., DRUGGIST do.

OLIVER EVANS.
No. 61 South 2d st., 2 doors below Chesnut, Phila.
☞ Established in 1835. feb 9-1y

FARMERS, ATTENTION!

GROWERS of Grass and Tobacco, use Leinau's Super Phosphate of Lime. $2,50 per bbl., or $40 per ton

GROWERS OF CORN AND POTATOES,

Use Leinau's American Fertilizer, $3,50 per bbl., or $25 per ton. There has been received three diplomas from Pennsylvania, New York and New Jersey State Agricultural Societies, and Crystal Palace Association for the above Fertilizers, which have been in *successful use for the past five years. Orders enclosing* the cash, or drafts, mailed and registered, will be promptly attended to by G. A. LEINAU,
Feb. 9. Proprietor, No. 19, South Front st., Phila.

1000 TONS

No. 1 Super-Phosphate of Lime,

DEBURG'S Original and Genuine, warranted of superior quality, the cheapest manure in the world. *Farmers and dealers supplied at low prices,*

EXTRA QUALITY LAND PLASTER.—5000 barrels Extra Quality Land Plaster, selected for its fertilizing quality; 10,000 bushels of same in bulk; 10,000 barrels best quality ordinary Land Plaster, equal to the best usually sold, *at the low rate of 20 cents per bushel, or* $1.10 per barrel, with a deduction for large lots; 25,000 bushels of same in bulk; 1000 barrels Calcined Plaster; 1000 barrels Casting Plaster; 500 barrels Dentist Plaster; 5000 barrels Hydraulic Cement; 1000 barrels True Roman Cement

PERUVIAN GUANO.

This article we offer in confidence to our customers as equal to any imported, and far superior to most in the market. 10.000 bags of this superior Guano, for sale at the lowest market rates. Also, Poudrette, Mexican Guano, Ground Charcoal, &c., &c.

FRENCH, RICHARDS, & CO.
At the Steam Plaster Mills, junction York Avenue and Callowhill street, Philadelphia. feb 9 3m

FRANKLIN FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY OF PHILADELPHIA.

STATEMENT of the Assets of the Company on January 1, 1856

Published in conformity with the provision of the sixth section of the Act of Assembly, of April 5th, 1842.

MORTGAGES.			
Being first mortgages on real estate, in the City and County of Philadelphia, except $30,950 in Montgomery, Bucks, Schuylkill and Allegheny counties, Pennsylvania,			$1,456,973 36
REAL ESTATE.			
Purchased at Sheriffs' sales, under mortgage claims, viz:			
Eight houses and lot, 70 by 150 feet, on the South-west corner of Chestnut and Seventeenth streets,	Surveyed and valued at $110,000.		At cost, 82,454 45
A house and lot, 27 by 71 feet on North side of Spruce street, West of Eleventh street,			
A house and lot, 21-7 by 100 feet, on West side of Penn Square, South of High street,			
Two houses and lots, each 18 by 80 feet, on South side of Spruce street, near Sixteenth street,			
Five houses and lots, each 17-9 by 90 feet Nos. 159, 161, 163, 165 and 167 Dilwyn st.,			
Three houses and lot, 48 by 54 feet, on East side of Seventeenth street, south of Pine st,			
A lot of ground, 17 by 57 feet, on the Northeast corner of Twenty-second and Spruce streets,			
Hotel and lot, 50 by 81 feet, on the Southeast corner of Chestnut and Beach streets.			
Five houses and lot, 42 by 86 feet, on the North side of George street, West of Ashton street.			
Seven houses and lot, 20 by *117 feet*, on the East side of Beach street, south of Chestnut street,			
A house and lot, 18 by 80 feet, No. 96 Fitzwater street, East of Ninth street,			
A ground rent of $30, issuing out of a lot 13-4 by 40 feet, on North side of Otter street, 40 feet West of Lepard street,			
LOANS.			
Temporary Loans, on Stocks as Collateral *Security,*			107,902 95
STOCKS.			
$10,000 Alms House Loan, 5 per cent (Int. on)			
200 Shares Bank of Kentucky.	Market value, $70,428 50.		Cost, 63,565 50
17 " Northern Bank of Kentucky,			
100 " Union Bank of Tennessee,			
13 " Insurance Company of the State of Pennsylvania,			
200 " Southwark Railroad Company,			
37 " Commercial and Railroad *Bank*, Vicksburg,			
300 " Pennsylvania Railroad Co.,			
91 " Franklin Fire Insurance Co.,			
2 " Mercantile Library Company.			
24 " *Union* Canal Company,			
10 " Schuylkill Railroad Company,			
Notes and Bills receivable,			5,404 00
Unsettled Policies,			713 50
Merchandise.			163 54
Cash on hand,		35,646 49	
Cash in hands of Agents,		8,644 62	
			44 291 11
			$1,731,468 71

LOSSES BY FIRE.

Losses paid during the year 1856, $237,374 40

By order of the Board.

CHARLES N. BANCKER, President.
Attest CHARLES G. BANCKER, Secretary.
THOS. LLOYD, Agent, Columbia.
February 9, 1856 1y